

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

USDEL JEC PARIS

DEPT OF THE TREASURY

USSAGE NAKHON PHANOM THAILAND

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COMDT COGARD WASHDC

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

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COGARD FOR POLAD

E.O.11652:NA

TAGS: PFOR XC US

SUBJECT: OCTOBER 18 EA PRESS SUMMARY

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1. CHINA

WP (P. 2) HAS AP PHOTO OF BUSH TALKING WITH HUANG CHEN

AT DULLES BEFORE ENVOY'S DEPARTURE FOR PEKING. NO STORIES.

PRC FM SPOKESMAN BRANDS AS "OUT-AND-OUT RUMOR-MONGERING" MONDAY'S LONDON DAILY TELEGRAPH REPORT THAT MAO SUFFERED STROKE LAST MONTH. SPOKESMAN PHONED CORRESPONDENTS IN PEKING 3 DAYS AFTER MINISTRY HAD BEEN ASKED TO COMMENT ON REPORT (NYT , SOURCED TO GLOBE AND MAIL), NEWSMEN IN PEKING NOTED MAO MET TWO FOREIGN VISITORS SINCE ALLEGED ILLNESS (WP).

NYT'S BROWNE, IN WARSAW, REPORTING GATHERING OF EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES, NOTES NEITHER PRC NOR HER ALLIES, INCLUDING ALBANIA, IS REPRESENTED. SAYS IT HAS BECOME CLEAR THAT SOVIET'S HOPES FOR RESOLUTION BY MOST OF WORLD'S COMMUNIST PARTIES DENOUNCING PEKING IS UNLIKELY EITHER IN PREPARATORY MEETINGS OR AT MAIN CONFERENCE.

US FREIGHTER "EXPORT COMMERCE" ARRIVED IN NY THIS WEEK WITH CHINESE STOWAWAY FROM HK SEEKING POL ASYLUM. MAN

CLAIMS HE ESCAPED FROM PRC THREE YEARS AGO BY SWIMMING TO HK; HIS ATTORNEY SAYS STOWAWAY FEARS HE MAY BE KILLED IF SENT BACK, AND THAT IN 1964 HAD JOINED RED FLAG FACTION, WHICH WAS DENOUNCED IN GPCR. US COURT HAS ISSUED STAY OF DEPORTATION UNTIL NEXT TUESDAY (NYT).

2. INDOCHINA

IN RUSH BEFORE ADJOURNMENT, FORD AND CONGRESS REACH COMPROMISE ON TURKISH ARMS IN TWICE-VETOED BILL TO REPLACE CONTINUING RESOLUTION. NEW LANGUAGE ADDED BANNING SHIPMENT OF ANY MORE US FERTILIZER TO SVN, THOUGH UP TO 85 MILLION DOLS IN AID FUNDS COULD BE USED TO BUY FERTILIZER FROM OTHER COUNTRIES. THIS SUPERSEDES EARLIER DECISION TO GIVE SAIGON 100 THOUSAND DOLS FOR FERTILIZER (WP'S RUSSELL/RICH).

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POLICE USED TEAR GAS GRENADES TO BREAK UP DEMONSTRATION AGAINST THIEU GOVT IN QUANG NGAI THURSDAY NIGHT CALLED BY SENATOR MAU'S BUDDHIST-BACKED GROUP (REUTER SAIGON; WP, NYDN). ON FIGHTING FRONT, GOVT MIL SPOKESMAN SAYS COMMUNIST FORCES BLEW UP TWO BRIDGES ALONG HIGHWAY 1, ISOLATING HUE FROM ROAD TRAFFIC (WP).

RLG ANNOUNCED FRIDAY THAT SOUVANNA WILL RETURN FROM FRANCE NOV. 1 (REUTER VIENTIANE). SEARCH PARTY RECOVERED FOUR BODIES THURSDAY FROM WRECKAGE OF ROYAL AIR LAO TRANSPORT PLANE THAT CRASHED INTO MOUNTAIN TUESDAY. SEARCHERS REPORTED NO SIGN OF US PILOT (AP, CHITRIB).

3. KOREA

STUDENT DEMONSTRATORS IN SEOUL AND TAEGU CALLED FRIDAY FOR DEMOCRATIC REFORMS AND RELEASE OF DETAINED COLLEAGUES, AS MOST UNIVERSITIES ACROSS COUNTRY REMAINED CLOSED (REUTER SEOUL).

S-N'S WILLOUGHBY REPORTS REV. MOON'S WEDNESDAY NIGHT CONSTITUTION HALL APPEARANCE. NOTES ONE CONTINGENT OF DEMONSTRATORS STOOD OUTSIDE AUDITORIUM CARRYING PLACARDS DENOUNCING EVANGALIST AND CHANTING, "DOWN WITH PARK AND HIS FASCIST GOONS, DOWN WITH HIS AGENT, SUN MYUNG MOON." ONE GROUP DISTRIBUTED LEAFLETS CALLING MOON DEFENDER OF NIXON AND HITLER AND SAYING HE "SUPPORTS MURDER AND TORTURE" -- REFERENCE TO MOON'S ALLEGED BACKING OF PARK'S POLICIES (OCT. 17).

S-N'S TOM DOWLING ALSO COVERED REV. MOON, OPENING WITH

QUESTION AS TO WHETHER MOON IS "MESSIAH OR JUST ANOTHER FRUITCAKE?"

4. JAPAN

JAMESON (LAT), IN TOKYO, CITES REMARKS OF MITI'S YAMASHITA TO FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT'S CLUB WEDNESDAY THAT JAPAN COULD FACE UNPRECEDENTED UNEMPLOYMENT NEXT YEAR THAT WOULD JEOPARDIZE TRADITIONAL JOB PATTERN OF LIFETIME WITH UNCLASSIFIED

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ONE COMPANY IN FAVOR OF MORE ROOTLESS US STYLE. ADDED THAT "ANOTHER ROUND" OF INVESTMENTS IN STEEL INDUSTRY -- "FOUR OR FIVE BLAST FURNACES OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS" -- WILL PROBABLY BE THE LAST. AFTER THAN, JAPAN'S STEELMAKERS WILL PROBABLY TURN TO BUILDING MILLS OVERSEAS, HE SAID (OCT. 17).

WP'S OBERDORFER REPORTS THAT YEAR AFTER OUTBREAK OF PETROLEUM CRISIS, JAPAN'S ECONOMY HAS BEGUN ADJUSTING TO NEW CONDITIONS. WHOLESAL PRICES HAVE TAPERED OFF AND CONSUMER PRICES EXPECTED TO FOLLOW; EXPORTS HAVE RECORDED UNPRECEDENTED GAINS AND AFTER FEW MONTHS OF DEFICIT, TRADE BALANCE MOVED BACK INTO BLACK THIS SUMMER. IF WAGE SETTLEMENTS WITH LABOR UNIONS CAN BE HELD DOWN TO 20 PERCENT OR LESS, MAJOR VICTORY WILL HAVE BEEN WON IN BATTLE FOR STABILITY. THEN GOVT COULD AFFORD TO EASE TIGHT MONEY AND OTHER SEVERE RESTRAINTS, PERMITTING ECONOMY TO MOVE AHEAD AGAIN.

CSM'S GOODSSELL NOTES INCREASING JAPANESE ECON PENETRATION OF LATIN AMERICA, WHICH HAS BECOME SO IMPORTANT THAT NEW JAPANESE INVESTMENTS THIS YEAR ALONE WILL TOTAL MORE TWO BILLION DOLS, LARGELY IN BRAZIL, MEXICO AND PERU.

JAPAN MACHINERY EXPORTERS ASSN SAID THURSDAY IT HAS BEEN NOTIFIED BY TWO FREIGHT CONFERENCES SERVING JAPAN-KOREA AND NORTH AMERICA THAT SPECIAL RATE INCREASES OF 5-19 PERCENT WILL BE APPLIED TO CERTAIN GOODS, EFFECTIVE NOV. 15 (AP, CHITRIB).

5. AUSTRALIA

JOC'S STOVE, IN SYDNEY, FINDS AUSTRALIA HIGHLY CRITICAL OF JAPAN'S RELUCTANCE TO START IMPORTING AUSSIE WOOL AND BEEF ONCE AGAIN. SAYS THERE HAVE BEEN SUGGESTIONS THAT COUNTRY SHOULD LOOK FOR "MORE RELIABLE" CUSTOMER FOR AGRIC PRODUCTS. AG MIN WRIEDT HAS VOICED PERSONAL DISLIKE FOR SITUATION WHERE MARKET IS CUT OFF WITHOUT CONSULTATION. STOVE SAYS WRIEDT REFERRED TO OUTRAGE IN JAPAN OVER US DECISION LAST YEAR TO CUT SOYBEAN EXPORTS. REPORTS WRIEDT

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SAID IT WAS VERY GOOD ANALOGY AND ILLUSTRATED HARM THAT COULD BE DONE BY THIS SORT OF ACTION.

QANTAS HAS OFFERED TO WORK OUT CAPACITY AGREEMENT IN SOUTH PACIFIC WITH PANAM IN ORDER TO HELP FINANCIALLY TROUBLED US FLAG CARRIER; BUT IN LETTER TO 12,000 US TRAVEL AGENTS, IT VOICED CONCERN OVER CAMPAIGN NOW BEING WAGED BY SOME PAA EMPLOYEES TO PERSUADE INTERNATIONAL TRAVELERS TO FLY PANAM "JUST BECAUSE IT IS AMERICAN." QANTAS DENIED RECEIVING ANY ADVANTAGE FROM GOA, AND ASKED TRAVEL AGENTS TO IGNORE PAA APPEAL FOR LESS THAN FREE COMPETITION (REUTER SYDNEY, OCT. 17).

6. PHILIPPINES

WP'S GREENWAY, IN MANILA, SAYS SEVEN POLITBURO MEMBERS OF OUTLAWED "RUSSIAN WING" OF CP TOLD MANILA EDITORS WEDNESDAY THAT THEIR ORGANIZATION IS ABANDONING 44 YEARS OF ARMED STRUGGLE IN FAVOR OF COOPERATION WITH GOP BECAUSE OF MARCOS' LAND-REFORM PROGRAM AND GOVT'S NEW FOREIGN POLICY WHICH SEEKS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH SOCIALIST COUNTRIES AND ARAB STATES. ONE COMMUNIST SPOKESMAN ALSO SPOKE OF DEMOCRATIC GAINS MADE BY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS, WHICH HE SAID ARE RUN BY PEOPLE RATHER THAN BY CORRUPT POLITICIANS.

AP (MANILA) REPORTS MARCOS DIRECTED GOVT SATURDAY TO PREPARE AMNESTY PROCLAMATION FOR ALL CP MEMBERS -- MOVE APPARENTLY AIMED AT HELPING PAVE WAY FOR DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PRC (BALTO N-A, OCT. 17).

NYT'S LELYVELD, IN MANILA, REPORTS MARCOS REGIME HAS

BEEN TRYING TO MEND FENCES WITH RC HIERARCHY AFTER PROTEST ON BEHALF OF "TRUTH AND JUSTICE" BY NEW ARCHBISHOP OF MANILA THAT SEEMED TO STIR DEEP CURRENT OF POPULAR FEELING. WHILE ARCHBISHOP IS OBVIOUSLY NOT IN BASIC SYMPATHY WITH YOUNG PRIESTS AND NUNS IN VANGUARD OF RESISTANCE TO MARTIAL LAW, SAYS LELYVELD, HIS VIGIL AND STRONGLY-WORDED PASTORAL LETTER - URGING ALL CATHOLICS TO PRAY FOR REIGN OF "TRUTH AND JUSTICE, PEACE AND FREEDOM" -- WAS MOST DRAMATIC PUBLIC UNCLASSIFIED

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CHALLENGE TO MARCOS SINCE ASSUMING AUTHORITARIAN POWERS.

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

7. HAK

WP'S JACK ANDERSON CITES "INSIDE SOURCES, WITH SECRET DOCUMENTS TO BACK UP THEIR STORY," THAT US FOREIGN POLICY WAS ALMOST TOTALLY DOMINATED BY HAK DURING NIXON YEARS. SOURCES RECALL ONLY ONE MAJOR ISSUE ON WHICH NIXON VETOED HAK'S RECOMMENDATION: DECISION TO BOMB HANOI AND MINE HAIPHONG HARBOR IN MAY 1972 - DECISION IN WHICH NIXON OVERRULED ALL HIS CHIEF ADVISERS, INCLUDING HAK. SAYS HAK'S DOMINATION OF FOREIGN POLICY HAS CONTINUED INTO FORD ADMIN. IN EARLY 1969 "PEP TALK" TO NSC STAFF, MOST OF WHOM WERE FSO'S, NIXON SAID, "HENRY AND I ARE GOING TO END THE WAR. WE WANT YOU FELLOWS TO TAKE CARE OF THE REST OF THE WORLD." THERE FOLLOWED FURIOUS, VULGAR ASSAULT ON THE DEPARTMENT, IN WHICH HE SAID WH WOULD HANDLE FOREIGN POLICY, NOT THE "STRIPED-PANTS FAGGOTS."

8. CHINA

LAT'S ELEGANT (OCT 17) IN TAIPEI THINKS PRC IS IN NO HURRY FOR RESOLUTION OF TAIWAN ISSUE, DESPITE RITUALISTIC INSISTENCE THAT TAIWAN IS INTEGRAL PART OF CHINA, AND THAT SINO-US RELATIONS CANNOT BE "NORMALIZED" UNTIL US WITHDRAWS DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION FROM TAIWAN. THINKS PRC MAY FEAR IMPERILING AMERICAN CONNECTION IF IT PRESSES TOO HARD FOR EITHER FORMAL RECOGNITION OR AMERICAN INITIATIVES TO FORCE TAIWAN INTO CHINA'S EMBRACE.

BY RECKONING OF PRAGMATIC PEKING LEADERSHIP, THERE ARE MORE IMPORTANT ISSUES THAN HIGHLY EMOTIONAL TAIWAN QUESTION. IT WOULD NOT DO TO PUT ISSUE AHEAD OF US ROLE AS COUNTERWEIGHT TO USSR. FORCING WASHINGTON TO MAKE UNPLEASANT DECISION TO WITHDRAW ALL PROTECTION FROM TAIWAN COULD ACCELERATE ISOLATIONISM IN US AND HASTEN US MIL WITHDRAWAL FROM ALL ASIA, WHICH PEKING DEFINITELY DOES NOT WANT. MOREOVER, US TRADE AND

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TECHNOLOGY ARE MORE IMPORTANT TO COMMUNISTS THAN EXTENDING FORMAL SOVEREIGNTY OVER TAIWAN. TAIWAN COULD BE MAJOR INTERNAL PROBLEM IF IT PASSED UNDER COMMUNIST RULE TOMORROW; POLITICAL AND ECON IMBALANCE BETWEEN TAIWAN AND PRC IS IMMENSE. COMMUNISTS HAVE HAD IMMENSE DIFFICULTIES RULING SHANGHAI, MAJOR INDUSTRIAL CITY. THEY ARE APPARENTLY IN NO HURRY TO TAKE ON EVEN GREATER PROBLEM OF RULING TAIWAN.

9. JAPAN

NYT EDIT NOTES UNDERSTANDABLE CONTROVERSY OVER SATO'S NOBEL PRIZE. BUT CONSIDERS AS ACT OF POLITICAL COURAGE AND MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO WORLD PEACE, SATO'S RENUNCIATION OF NUKES FOR JAPAN AND SIGNING OF NPT WHEN PRC AND USSR WERE PRESSING AHEAD WITH NUCLEAR ARMAMENT AND INDIAN BOMB, NOW REALITY, WAS PREDICTED. BY HONORING SATO, NOBEL COMMITTEE HAS GIVEN ENCOURAGEMENT TO JAPAN'S DELAYED RATIFICATION OF NPT AND TO WORLD-WIDE EFFORT THAT MUST YET BE UNDERTAKEN TO HALT SPREAD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

FROM TOKYO, NYT'S BUTTERFIELD REPORTS IMPACT ON JAPANESE FAMILIES OF INFLATION, WHICH THREATENS TO UNDERMINE JAPAN'S AFFLUENCE. ALREADY PRICE SPIRAL HAS FORCED MANY TO BEGIN FORGOING PROUD TRAPPINGS OF THEIR CONSUMER SOCIETY. CITES MITI VICE MINISTER YAMASHITA'S WARNING THAT JAPAN WAS ALMOST CERTAINLY HEADED FOR DEPRESSION, ADDING, "AS LONG AS WE TRY TO RESTRAIN INFLATION, WE HAVE TO TAKE IT FOR GRANTED THAT A KIND OF DEPRESSION WILL COME IN 1975."

10. VIETNAM

S-N'S ARBUCKLE (OCT 17) IN SAIGON NOTES PERVASIVENESS OF CORRUPTION IN VN, BUT OBSERVES THAT RALLIES HELD BY CATHOLIC ANTI-CORRUPTION MOVEMENT LED BY REV. THANH ARE NOT DRAWING HUGE CROWDS. CITES DIPLOMATS THAT PEOPLE DON'T WANT TO COMMIT THEMSELVES, DON'T WANT THEIR HEADS BROKEN BY POLICE, AND TAKING WAIT-AND-SEE STANCE. ARBUCKLE ATTRIBUTES POOR ATTENDANCE AT ALMOST UNCLASSIFIED

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DAILY DEMONSTRATIONS PARTIALLY TO POLICE CORDONING OFF DEMONSTRATION AREA. SAYS RCS ARE WELL AWARE OF THEIR LACK OF CROWDS; THANH SAYS HE IS SENDING OUT CADRES TO WHIP UP FEELING.

DESPITE ABSENCE OF CROWDS, MOVEMENT IS BROADENING. MOVEMENT'S ANTI-CORRUPTION STANCE HAS BEEN ENCOURAGED BY ARCHBISHOP BINH WITH UNDERSTANDING, ACCORDING TO SOURCES CLOSE TO BISHOP, THAT THIEU'S OVERTHROW IS NOT INTENDED. DIPLOMATS, HOWEVER, SEE THIS SUPPORT FOR THANH FROM HIERARCHY AS AIMED AT THIEU. VIET PRESS HAS BECOME EVER MORE VIRULENTLY ANTI-THIEU, INCENSED BY TACTICS AGAINST IT SUCH AS NEWSPAPER CONFISCATION AND ARRESTS; LAWYERS ASSN AND 200,000-STRONG VETERANS ASSN ALSO ISSUED STATEMENTS CONDEMNING CORRUPTION. COMMUNISTS ARE SWINGING INTO LINE WITH ANTI-THIEU MOVEMENTS, DECLARING THEY ARE WILLING TO NEGOTIATE

AND TALK WITH ANYBODY EXCEPT THIEU AND INSISTING HIS OUSTER IS NECESSARY TO END WAR.

DIPLOMATIC SOURCES POINT OUT, HOWEVER, THAT RCS REMAIN MORE FRIGHTENED OF COMMUNISTS THAN OUTRAGED BY CORRUPTION AND SOME SORT OF ACCOMMODATION MAY YET BE FOUND WHEREBY THIEU SURVIVES BUT RESHUFFLES HIS CABINET. SOURCES NOT SO SURE THIEU HAS POWER TO PURGE, SINCE MEMBERS OF HIS CABINET, ARMY AND POLICE WHO SHOULD BE FIRED ARE VERY PEOPLE WHO INSURE HIS GOVT'S SURVIVAL.

RUMORS LINK VISITS BY VATICAN OFFICIALS TO FACT THAT DIEM-TOPPLER LODGE IS NOW AT VATICAN. VIETS AUTOMATICALLY ASSUME THANH IS PAID BY AMERICANS AND WHOLE CATHOLIC MOVEMENT IS US MANEUVER TO REMOVE THIEU IN FAVOR OF MORE VIABLE MAN WHO WOULD NEGOTIATE END TO WAR.

CSM'S STROUT CONTRASTS LBJ'S '64 ELECTION RHETORIC WITH HIS POST-ELECTION ACTIONS ON VN. SAYS DOWN TO 1973 AMERICA'S RATIONALIZATION FOR VN INTERVENTION WAS GENERALLY ON GROUND THAT COMMUNISTS WERE CONDUCTING INVASION. HOWEVER, HAK'S JAN. 24, 1973 PRESS BRIEFING LEFT THIS IN DOUBT. WHEN ASKED WHO IS LEGITIMATE UNCLASSIFIED

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GOVT OF SVN, HAK REPLIED, "THAT IS WHAT THE CIVIL WAR HAS BEEN ALL ABOUT." STROUT SAYS IT WAS NOT ANSWER HIS PREDECESSORS WOULD HAVE MADE; NOR WOULD EARLIER "CEASE-FIRE" AGREEMENT PROBABLY HAVE ALLOWED HANOI TO KEEP 145,000 TROOPS IN SVN. IT WAS THIS CONCESSION, IT APPEARS, THAT MADE SO-CALLED "AGREEMENT" (SUCH AS IT IS) POSSIBLE.

11. DIEGO GARCIA

SOCIETY FOR ASIAN AFFAIRS GENERAL SECRETARY WRITES LETTER TO CSM EDIT SUPPORTING 1972-1973 UNGA APPEAL, INTRODUCED BY 13 AFRO-ASIAN NATIONS, FOR INDIAN OCEAN "ZONE OF PEACE".

12. GENERAL

CLAREMONT COLLEGE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROF GOULD
DENOUNCES HAK'S BALANCE-OF-POWER DIPLOMACY, FAVORS
"ETHICAL FOREIGN POLICY," IN LETTER TO CSM. SAYS
THIS CALLS NOT FOR NIXON DOCTRINES OF CAMBODIAN WAR
AND MERCENARY SUPPORT, BUT TRUE PEACE; NOT FOR
BALANCING PRC AGAINST USSR, BUT TRYING TO RECONCILE
THEM; NOT FOR EMPTY TALK OF FREEDOM, BUT LIBERATION
OF OUR COLONIES IN MICRONESIA, GUAM, SAMOA, PANAMA,
AND PUERTO RICO. KISSINGER

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